

THE ACHIEVEMENT WITHOUT PRECEDENT

SECRETARY BAKER commanded the attention of Congress, when he told what the nation has done to prepare for war. In language of the simplest, with candor and sincerity, he received the tale of a people's crusade, the story of democracy girding on the sword.

There are more men in France by hundreds of thousands than the wildest critics of the government dreamed of, when they were telling what the government ought to do in 1917.

Upon French soil there are, or soon will be, 500,000 American soldiers, fully equipped and ready to fight.

Upon American soil there are 1,500,000 soldiers ready to go to France as fast as ships can be provided for them.

The tale of preparation in France is a miracle story. Great harbors have been prepared, as by the wave of a magician's wand. A railroad 600 miles long has been made over and amplified to supply American troops. Warehouses in seaport cities and warehouses behind the fighting fronts spread in row on row, over miles of country.

Much of the material has come from this country. When possible it has been procured in France. Tonnage is scarce, and the drain upon transport has been tremendous.

Fortunately France has a surplus of machine gun and artillery production, ample to supply American troops, so that transport has been available for other things, and America has had time to fabricate weapons superior to those now in use.

Of the accusations in Senator Chamberlain's speech, Secretary Baker simply said, "They are incidents picked out from the great mass of things accomplished. They do not represent American achievement, but only the points in which achievement was defective."

Any man reading what Secretary Baker says will perceive that Senator Chamberlain's indictment was really an indictment of the American people. What has been done, after all, is but the measure of American civilization, of American industry, of American power for co-operation and unified effort.

The leadership in these things is necessarily in the government. It is necessarily not in the possession of persons standing outside the government, who have no duty except that of citizens, and no information sufficient for the formation of a judgment.

Here is the government, meeting through its experts, the experts of the Allies, and deciding by consultation between experts precisely what is necessary.

All things change. Nothing was as it was before. All the conditions of war were different. The nature of the war, the weapons used, were changing from day to day. Things begun were abandoned, as later knowledge came to hand. New things were undertaken under the pressure of necessity.

How could a government change its views or its methods upon the advice of a citizen whose latest military experience was an old fashioned charge up San Juan Hill?

The experts who came from Europe knew things that Col. Roosevelt never heard of, and that the government learned only because it was the government.

Even the consultations between experts were insufficient. They produced division of council. The American government, at the suggestion of Lloyd George, brought into being a council of the Allies, in which all things might be settled intelligently and carried out concordantly.

What is the speech of Secretary Baker to the noisy and strident government and the American people. How named Mr. General Wood, as an experienced medical man, \$1,000, have been selected to prepare the camps and cantonments in which troops were to be trained.

At the moment when the scolding critics were complaining of the failure of the government to avail themselves of General Wood's services in Europe, came the news that he had been wounded in France.

Mr. Roosevelt and his kind owe an apology, not to the American government; but to the American people; not to the American alone, but to democracy itself. They accused democracy of failure, in the hour when democracy was proving its efficiency to the uttermost.

SENATOR CHAMBERLAIN'S DEFENSE

IN HIS NEW YORK speech Senator Chamberlain made certain accusations regarding the government and the management of the war. The president, in a letter, characterized these charges as "an astonishing and absolutely unjustifiable distortion of the truth."

Senator Chamberlain has replied. His reply will seem to a discriminating mind, to confirm the president's accusation.

What is the truth in this matter?

The United States government has raised great armies.

It has sent armies to France.

It has raised billions of dollars to carry on the war.

It is supplying the Allies with wheat, coal and most of the necessities of life.

To do these things the government has been obliged, not of preference, but of necessity, to change many things.

It has fixed the price of wheat and other foods.

It has fixed the price of coal.

It has taken over management and control of railroads.

It has laid heavy and difficult taxes, because such taxes had to be laid. No warning nation has escaped that necessity.

All of this has been done with a very slight derangement of ordinary affairs. The American people have recognized the imperative nature of the work entrusted to the government, and have complied loyally with its demands.

This is evidence that the American people look with approval on what has been done.

How well have these things been done?

America sprang to a war basis in a period of time at least a year less than Great Britain consumed in obtaining the same degree of preparation.

Measure what has been done in all its elements of success or failure, against the early preparation for the war of 1812, or for the Civil War, or for the Spanish American war. Measure it against the preparation and arrangement of the Boer war, in South Africa.

When standards of the past are applied, none is so misinformed as not to know that the early preparation for this war was immeasurably superior to the early preparation for any other war known to this country. It must not be forgotten that Prussia was preparing for forty years.

When a thing has been done better than it was ever done before, it becomes very difficult to say, and more difficult to prove, that somebody else would have done it better.

The best typewriter in the market, is the best until somebody produces a better one. It is no argument at all to say that Jones, could have made a better typewriter, if he had tried. Jones didn't make a typewriter. That settles it.

In carrying on any great work, or, indeed, in contriving any sort of work, things are never a hundred per cent perfect.

The greater the task, the larger the number of things that may be exhibited as defective.

In times of perfect peace men commit suicide, murder their fellow men, make industrial mistakes. They have mumps, measles and pneumonia. Coal strikes have been known to stop coal supply more completely than it is now suspended. Sick men are occasionally neglected, even in hospitals. Occasionally a man in a Connecticut hospital and has been known to leave his cot, naked, jump out of a window, and run down street.

This is the truth about the government's early war preparation:

A great work has been carried on more successfully than any such work was before, but subject to the mistakes and errors inherent in human endeavor. Before guns arrived for them a few men drilled for a few days with wooden guns.

Sometimes soldiers came into camp ahead of their clothing. The machine gun supply has not come along as fast as the senator believes it should.

There is not enough heavy ordnance.

And then there was a very pathetic letter, written by a parent, whose son died in a hospital, and received less attention than he should have received.

These are fair examples of the facts upon which the senator relies to prove his case.

Not a single word of praise has he to say for the great deeds done. The American navy seems to him to have performed no wonderful task in taking troops to France without serious accident.

All this vast mechanism of accomplishment gives Senator Chamberlain no thrill of pride. He sees only the defects, the relatively trifling matters in which a stupendous organization fails to function perfectly.

The president's charge is proved down to the hilt. Senator Chamberlain is guilty of an "astonishing and absolutely unjustifiable distortion of the truth."

He looks upon the wonderful work his countrymen have done. He takes a microscope to find the defects in their labors, and alleges that these defects are the true measure of their labor.

By such a process of reasoning the execution of the best man in the world could be justified, if it could be proved that he had a wart on his nose.

America is doing a great work. Americans are laboring proudly and nobly, and successfully, in a great cause. They expect to make mistakes. They will judge the completed task by human standards, not by the standards of insincere perfectionists who mouth unattainable ideals, and think hatefully.

MALICE OR INCOMPETENCE?

SECRETARY McADOO, after scrutinizing reports of Federal inspectors, says that the coal famine in New England is due to the negligence of the New Haven Company, which deliberately permitted its locomotives to fall out of repair, and was unable to move 4,000 cars of coal out of the Harlem river freight yards.

It is unnecessary to inquire how much of this failure might have been due to a deliberate purpose to harass the government, and how much was due to sheer incompetence. Intelligent trainmen in the service of the New Haven company have their own ideas on the subject, and their ideas are based on knowledge and experience.

Whether this gross failure is due to malice or incompetence it calls imperatively for new executives. The government should forthwith put its own men in charge of transportation in New England.

Malice or incompetence, it matters not which, cannot be permitted to tie up, impede or suspend the industry of New England. Secretary McAdoo will take such steps as are necessary to move coal cars out of Harlem river terminal, and such further measures as are necessary to be rid of railroad executives who do not properly perform their duties.

THE RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH

IN THIS COUNTRY every man has the right of free speech. But not the right to say what he pleases. The right to describe a law as unwise, or unjust, belongs to everybody. But the right to oppose the operation of a law is admitted to nobody.

The right of free speech is held in check at all times by public opinion. The person who advocates birth control, anarchy, and so on, will usually find himself in trouble with his neighbors.

In time of war, when the necessity for unity is so great, this same public opinion operates as a check upon free speech, as the young man discovered, in New Haven, who wrote into his questionnaire that he hoped the Kaiser would win.

The instinct of self preservation is strong in the masses, and when the common safety is threatened the masses are quick to feel and resent. This is why some of the rights of free speech are usually put aside in war times.

SEPARATE PEACE NOT A DISGRACE, ASSERTS TROTSKY

Petrograd, Jan. 29.—(By the Associated Press)—Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, and M. Kamenoff, left Petrograd yesterday for Brest-Litovsk to resume the peace negotiations with the Central powers. The congress of the councils of workmen and soldiers' delegates, while deploring the imperialistic tenor of the German peace terms, approved all the actions of the Russian delegation and charged the government to continue the negotiations.

The congress adopted a resolution to this effect after the minority, made up of Minimalists and Social Revolutionists of the right, had sought vainly to persuade the adoption of a policy flatly against a separate peace. During the debate Foreign Minister Trotsky declared he could not give a guarantee that he would not sign a separate peace, saying:

"To call a separate peace a disgrace is blasphemy in the sight of blood covered Europe."

DEVENS CARPENTERS KILLED

Leominster, Mass., Jan. 29.—Three carpenters on their way to work at Camp Devens were killed and four were injured by a Boston & Maine freight train which crashed into their car at Lunenburg depot today.

Concord, N. H., Jan. 29.—Solon A. Carter, who retired in 1913 after serving 42 years as state treasurer, died here today. He was born in Leominster, Mass., in 1827.

MAN WHO KILLED TAILOR TO HANG AT WETHERSFIELD

New Haven, Jan. 29.—Frank Duroso of New York, convicted by a jury last week of killing Morris Goldstein, a tailor, of West Haven, was sentenced in the superior court here today to be hanged on June 7. Goldstein was shot down in the street in November, 1916.

Three other men have been convicted of the crime. Two of them, Carmine Pisanello and Carmine Lanzillo, are under sentence of death. They appeared at Duroso's trial as witnesses against him. The third man, Luigi Lanzillo, is serving a life sentence.

The motive for the crime was robbery. Duroso being brought here from New York to assist in carrying out the plot. The shooting occurred when Goldstein called for help as his assailants surrounded him.

WOODS AGAIN CAMPAIGN CHAIRMAN

Washington, Jan. 29.—Representative Frank P. Woods of Iowa, was re-elected chairman of the Republican National Congressional Campaign Committee by unanimous vote at a meeting at the Capitol last night. Other officers elected were: Vice chairman, Representatives Julius Kahn of California and W. R. Wood of Indiana; secretary, Representative E. H. Wason of New Hampshire; treasurer, ex-Senator Nathan B. Scott of West Virginia.

PREDICTED WAR, SEIZED AS SPY AND LOCKED UP

Maine Man Reported to Washington That War Was About to Break

Bangor, Me., Jan. 29.—To a Maine man, Francis E. Mallett of Leo, who has been visiting in Bangor this week, fell the honor of being the only man in the United States Consular service who had his ear close enough to the ground in 1914 to predict the coming of the great war.

By the irony of fate this brought him no recognition or praise, but imprisonment on the charge of being a spy. Russian officials had him arrested while on a visit to Petrograd in December, 1914, on the ground that any man who knew enough to predict the war had inside sources of information only open to those who practiced espionage.

The dispatch predicting the war was sent from Budapest, Hungary, where Mr. Mallett was vice-consul, on July 15, 1914 but did not reach the state department until July 30.

A New York newspaper of July 30, 1914 in referring to Mr. Mallett's prediction, printed the following from its Washington correspondent:

"He was incorrect in only one conjecture, expressing the opinion that Austria would wait until the crops were harvested before bringing matters to an issue. His dispatch is considered as one of the greatest importance at the state department, since it supports the general contention that Austria had been preparing for the clash with Serbia and that the murder of the Austrian heir apparent was only an excuse employed to cover the Austrian design to crush Serbia."

"No ambassador or minister in Europe or any of the higher consular officials gave any information of impending trouble. Mr. Mallett is considered one of the most efficient members of the consular service. He speaks Hungarian fluently as well as several other languages, and has a wide acquaintance in Hungary, where he has been stationed since 1906."

This newspaper reference to his intimate knowledge of conditions abroad proved to be disastrous to Mr. Mallett.

After the start of hostilities, he took over the consulates of the allied powers and conducted their business. He inspected prison camps in Austria, where allied soldiers were held, and in the latter part of December went to Russia on a similar mission. He was at the Hotel de France in Petrograd when, on the morning of Jan. 1, 1915, at 2 o'clock, a maid knocked at his door and told him there was a messenger with a telegram waiting outside.

"I opened the door," said Mr. Mallett, "and six soldiers, two officers and three civilians rushed inside, threw me to the floor and forcing me to sit there undressed facing a stove, they informed me of my arrest. I protested and requested that I be permitted to notify the American ambassador, offering my passport as credential."

"This request was refused, and after they had searched various articles of clothing passed at the soles of my feet and at the seams of my pajamas to see if anything was concealed in them, they permitted me to dress and I was driven to the office of the government secret service."

"Here I was questioned again and an official drew from a formidable looking envelope a clipping that looked strangely familiar. He presented it to me without a word, and it was the article in the issue of July 30 of the New York Herald, relating how I alone of all American officials in Europe had notified my government of the coming war. I had sent two notifications, one by a telegram and one in July, just preceding the outbreak of hostilities."

"I had no comment to make on the article, which was shown to me as evidence that I had sources of secret information. So I was taken to the prison for political criminals and placed in a dungeon beneath the street level. It was pitch dark and silent and I spent 24 hours there before I again was removed to another prison. I was held here for 15 days incommunicado, while Russian officials searched through my correspondence. I had more than enough of it on various official matters and it took some time to go through it."

"It was impossible for me to get any word to the outside, but it so happened that Miss Hellaw Russell, the daughter of a Russian official, whom I had helped get out of Budapest at the beginning of the war, heard by accident that I was under arrest. She enlisted the aid of her father and I was released."

"I left Russia and went to Vienna on business and while there I was approached by foreign officials and requested to explain how I had obtained the information spoken of in an American newspaper as furnished to the United States. And once more the clipping was shown to me. I replied that I got it in the ordinary way by merely using my eyes and observing the trend of events."

On his return from Europe, Mr. Mallett resided in New York city where he was at all times in touch with the Russian revolutionary element, having known many revolutionaries during his stay in the old countries, among them Leon Trotsky. "I came in frequent personal contact with Trotsky," said Mr. Mallett, "and I regret to say but little of the complimentary can be said regarding his character. I remember when he was married a few of his friends made up a purse and bought furniture for him. But his married life was short, as he deserted his bride and took up with an affinity. Trotsky was not industrious but, unlike others of his type, he was always neatly groomed and invariably made a fine impression upon people he met for the first time."

"Trotsky was open," stated in the Russian colonies of being in the pay of Germany, and with good reason I believe. I knew the Russian woman who had been detailed by the Czar's government to watch Trotsky, and I understood that she had documentary evidence of his guilt. You know Trotsky was driven from England, France and Spain on suspicion of being a spy."

Mr. Mallett is now conducting a cabin colony at Mattakunk Lake, Lee, where he has entertained Russian revolutionists, writers and others. Trotsky at one time wrote to him with a view of having the colony a visit.

TRANSFER SOLDIERS TO BATTLE LINE IN WEST FROM RUSSIAN FRONT

United States Government Exposes Teuton Treachery in Transferring Men From Inaction of East to Fight Against British, French and Americans.

Washington, Jan. 29.—Charges that Germany is violating the terms of the Russian truce by withdrawing troops from the eastern front and transferring them to the western battle lines were made today by the war department.

The war department made this statement:

"The general staff of the United States army announces that the German military authorities are evading those terms of the Russian truce which provided that German troops were not to be withdrawn from the eastern front for use in the west, during the peace negotiations."

German troops on the Russian front are being allowed to go home on furlough. These soldiers are then transferred to recruiting stations and sent to the western front.

"The troops are taken in this way, man by man, for two reasons—first because it deceives the Russians, and second because the eastern troops have been so influenced by the Russian revolutionary propaganda that the German military chiefs have decided to separate the men and scatter them in unaffected western regiments."

ICE FLOES CARRY OFF DOZEN RIVER PACKETS

Paducah, Ky., Jan. 29.—Descending ice gorges in the Tennessee and Ohio rivers, converging here today, swept the winter fleet of packets and other craft from their moorings at up river points and in the Paducah harbor and carried it on down the Ohio river.

Appeals for help from persons marooned on the icebound craft plainly were heard as they were carried past this city.

A report from Metropolis, Ill., said several packets were seen standing on end in the ice as the floe passed that place.

The number of boats caught in the torrent has not been determined. It was said that they probably would reach more than a dozen. A preliminary estimate of the damage, if all were lost, placed it at more than \$200,000.

Eagle line steamers, St. Louis packets, several Tennessee river and other smaller craft were in the harbor here when the gorge broke. The boats rocked and swayed with the impact of the ice. Additional cables were

hastily run to shore but failed to hold the boats as the pressure of the ice became greater, and one by one they were torn from their moorings and swept on down the river.

The survivors of the helpless fleet are expected to reach Cairo, Ill., late tonight.

Pittsburgh, Jan. 29.—Reports reached the weather bureau here today that the Monongahela river was rising rapidly from Fairmont, W. Va., north and the ice was moving out. It was expected that the ice would reach the pools in the neighborhood of Pittsburgh tonight and every possible precaution against damage to river craft was taken. The ice averages about 18 inches in thickness.

While there was possibility of considerable damage the news was heard with interest in Pittsburgh, since the Monongahela has been closing the river to navigation for more than a month and large quantities of coal, badly needed by the mills in this district, have been tied up.

U. S. TAX AGENTS FIND WEALTH IN COUNTY'S FARMS

Income tax collectors are loud in their praise of the manner in which the farmers of Fairfield county keep their books. Not only do they far surpass their city brethren in the conduct of their financial affairs, but also in most instances they far surpass them in wealth. Nearly every one of the farmers call for the blanks known as the "millionaire sheets," which have not arrived at the local office from Washington up to the present.

Yesterday the tax collectors worked until 9 p. m. and interviewed no less than 2,000 taxpayers, who filled out tax forms, showing upwards of \$5,000,000. When it is taken into consideration that all of those were of the working class taking advantage of the federal holiday to fill out their tax papers, the amount of wealth is amazing.

Among the big crowd which jammed the tax office today were dozens of women who all were eager to tell Uncle Sam how wealthy they were. There are only a few of the many factories in this district that have not taken advantage of the tax collectors' offer to straighten out any tangle that they may have in their books.

AMERICAN FLYER KILLED.

Paris, Jan. 29.—Dumaresque Spence of Highland Park, Ill., was killed a few days ago while returning from patrol duty across the German lines near Belfort. He was a member of the Franco-American flying squadron and a graduate of Yale.

TURKEY TO TAKE CENSUS FOR FIRST TIME IN HISTORY

Amsterdam, Jan. 29.—For the first time in the history of Turkey, a complete census of the whole empire is to be taken. A German statistician has been appointed to superintend the preliminary formalities. The Turkish newspaper Sabah says: "We are the only nation in Europe not excluding even the Balkan states which possesses no official statistics of our population."

The estimated population of Turkey before the war was roughly 21,000,000 of which 7,000,000 were Turks, 9,000,000 Arabs, 1,500,000 Armenians, 1,500,000 Greeks, 1,500,000 Kurds, and the remainder Druses, Jews, and the smaller tribes. The Turkish newspapers have recently shown some anxiety as to the large decrease in population lately caused by the war and the prevalence of disease, and have urged the government to take steps to decrease mortality and increase the birth rate.

but as Mr. Mallett had not long before that helped Trotsky out with a loan, he did not feel like playing the part of host to him for an indefinite period. Emma Goldman, the anarchist, was another radical who wished to spend a vacation at the colony, but was not encouraged by Mr. Mallett.

Explanation—"Meatless" means without any cattle, hog, or sheep products. On other days use mutton and lamb in preference to beef or pork. "Forkless" means without pork, bacon, ham, lard or pork products, fresh or preserved. Use fish, poultry and eggs. As a nation we eat and waste nearly twice as much meat as we need.

"Make every day a fat saving day (butter, lard, lard substitutes, etc.) Explanation—Fry less; bake, broil, boil or stew instead. Save meat drippings; use these and vegetable oils for cooking instead of butter. Butter has food values vital to children; therefore give it to them. Use it only on the table. Waste no soap; it is made from fat. Be careful of all fats. We use and waste two and a half times as much fat as we need.

"Make every day a sugar saving day. Explanation—Use less sugar. Less sweet drinks are candy contains sugar should be used in war times. As a nation we have used twice as much sugar as we need."

The card cautions householders also against hoarding food, and gives renewed assurance that the government "by its control of exports will retain for our people a sufficient supply of every essential foodstuff." Warning against limiting the food of growing children also given.